UNITED
NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/C.5/49/38
5 December 1994

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-ninth session
FIFTH COMMITTEE
Agenda item 107

PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1994-1995

Financing for the expansion of the United Nations Observer Mission in South Africa

Report of the Secretary-General

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The present report contains the financial performance of the United Nations Observer Mission in South Africa (UNOMSA) for the mandate period from 1 January to 31 July 1994, as requested by the General Assembly in its resolution 48/230 B of 14 February 1994. The total expenditure for UNOMSA for the biennium 1994-1995 is estimated at $28,260,100, of which $8,994,100 was appropriated in General Assembly resolution 48/230 A of 23 December 1993 for its initial mandate. An additional appropriation of $19,266,000 is required.

2. UNOMSA was established in mid-September 1993 pursuant to Security Council resolution 772 (1992) of 17 August 1992 with a total strength of 50 civilian observers and 13 support staff. In February and September 1993, the Security Council authorized increments of 10 and 40 observers respectively, for a total complement of 100 observers (S/25315 and S/26559).

3. Following consideration of the report on the financing of UNOMSA (A/C.5/48/28) and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/48/745), the General Assembly, inter alia, approved under section 4 of the programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995 an appropriation of $8,994,100 for activities of UNOMSA under its initial mandate for the period from 1 January to 31 July 1994.

4. Subsequently, in resolution 894 (1994) of 14 January 1994, the Security Council welcomed with appreciation the report of the Secretary-General on the question of South Africa (A/48/845-S/1994/16 and Add.1) and agreed with the

proposals contained therein concerning the mandate and size of UNOMSA. By resolution 48/233 of 21 January 1994, the General Assembly, inter alia:

(a) Commended the Secretary-General for his prompt response to the requests contained in paragraphs 18 and 19 of its resolution 48/159 A of 20 December 1993, and welcomed the proposals contained in the report of the Secretary-General;

(b) Took note with satisfaction of Security Council resolution 894 (1994), by which it accepted the need to respond urgently to the request by the Transitional Executive Council and agreed with the proposals contained in the report of the Secretary-General concerning the expanded mandate and size of UNOMSA, including the proposals for the coordination of the activities of the international observers provided by the Organization of African Unity (OAU), the Commonwealth and the European Union, as well as those provided by other intergovernmental organizations or Governments;

(c) Welcomed the intention of the Secretary-General to set up a special trust fund to finance the participation of additional observers from African and other developing countries, and urged States to contribute generously to the fund.

5. On the basis of Security Council resolution 894 (1994) and General Assembly resolution 48/233, the Secretary-General submitted a report to the Assembly on the financing for the expansion of UNOMSA (A/C.5/48/67). In resolution 48/230 B, the Assembly, having considered the report of the Secretary-General and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions:

(a) Authorized the Secretary-General to enter into commitments not to exceed $30,040,900 for the expansion of UNOMSA;

(b) Requested the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session a performance report on the Mission;

(c) Decided that additional appropriations for the Mission should be considered in the light of the report to be submitted by the Secretary-General.

II. FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE REPORT OF THE UNITED NATIONS OBSERVER MISSION IN SOUTH AFRICA FOR THE MANDATE PERIOD FROM 1 JANUARY TO 31 JULY 1994

6. Annex I to the present report sets out the total resources authorized by the General Assembly for UNOMSA for the mandate period from 1 January to 31 July 1994 (namely, the appropriation of $8,994,100 and the commitment authority amounting to $30,040,900 authorized by the Assembly in its resolution 48/230), the estimated expenditures ($28,260,100), the uncommitted balance of the authorized amount ($10,774,900) and the appropriation now required from the General Assembly ($19,266,000). Annex II contains supplementary information on the estimated expenditures.

7. In addition to the expenditures contained in the annexes, approximately $522,600 was made available to the Mission from voluntary contributions. These resources were used in setting up polling stations in a number of countries, including countries in Africa, to enable South African nationals outside South Africa to participate in the elections.

III. CONTINGENCY FUND

8. Paragraph 11 of annex I to General Assembly resolution 41/213 of 19 December 1986, which sets out the budget process, provides, inter alia, that:

> "the revised estimates arising from the impact of extraordinary expenses, including those relating to the maintenance of peace and security, as well as fluctuations in rates of exchange and inflation, shall not be covered by the contingency fund and shall continue to be treated in accordance with established procedures under the relevant provisions of the Financial Regulations and Rules".

9. The Secretary-General is of the view that the activities of UNOMSA are of an extraordinary nature related to the maintenance of peace and security and should thus be dealt with outside the procedures related to the contingency fund, as provided for in paragraph 11 of annex I to General Assembly resolution 41/213.

IV. ACTION REQUIRED FROM THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

10. As indicated in paragraph 1 above, the total estimated expenditure for UNOMSA for the biennium 1994-1995 is estimated at $28,260,100. Of that amount, $8,994,100 has been appropriated by the General Assembly. The additional appropriation required under section 4 of the programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995 to cover the cost of UNOMSA amounts to $19,266,000.

11. In addition, an amount of $1,464,200 is requested under section 28 (Staff assessment), which would be offset by the same amount under income Section 1 (Income from staff assessment).

ANNEX I

Financial performance for the period from 1 January to 31 July 1994

(Thousands of United States dollars)

	Appropriation	Commitment authority	Total authorized	Estimated expenditures	Deficit (surplus)	Required appropriation
UNITED NATIONS STAFF						
International staff (salaries)	3 495.3	5 092.3	8 587.6	5 359.7	(3 227.9)	1 864.4
International staff (common staff costs)	1 933.4	3 226.9	5 160.3	4 062.6	(1 097.7)	2 129.2
Monthly subsistence allowance	1 622.2	3 591.9	5 214.1	4 293.8	(920.3)	2 671.6
Consultants	40.0	100.0	140.0	289.1	149.1	249.1
Local staff	191.3	952.8	1 144.6	802.6	(342.0)	610.8
Other official travel	130.0	95.5	225.5	143.2	(82.3)	13.2
TOTAL UNITED NATIONS STAFF	7 412.7	13 059.4	20 472.1	14 951.0	(5 521.1)	7 538.3
UNITED NATIONS VOLUNTEERS		2 464.0	2 464.0	2 460.7	(3.3)	2 460.7
OBSERVERS		6 570.0	6 570.0	5 051.9	(1 518.1)	5 051.9
Public information programme		300.0	300.0	136.2	(163.8)	136.2
Public information supplies	45.0		45.0	6.8	(38.2)	(38.2)
TOTAL: PUBLIC INFORMATION	45.0	300.0	345.0	143.0	(202.0)	98.0
PREMISES/ACCOMMODATION						
Rental of premises	169.8	103.0	272.8	195.8	(77.0)	26.0
Minor alterations to premises		15.5	15.5	6.9	(8.6)	6.9
Maintenance supplies			-	20.9	20.9	20.9
Utilities		40.0	40.0	4.3	(35.7)	4.3
TOTAL: PREMISES/ACCOMMODATION	169.8	158.5	328.3	227.9	(100.4)	58.1
TRANSPORT OPERATIONS						
Rental of vehicles	336.3	3 647.3	3 983.6	2 451.1	(1 532.5)	2 114.8
Purchase of vehicles	420.0		420.0		(420.0)	(420.0)
Spare parts/repairs/ maintenance		25.0	25.0	53.3	28.3	53.3
Petrol, oil and lubricants		221.4	221.4	172.7	(48.7)	172.7

	Appropriation	Commitment authority	Total authorized	Estimated expenditures	Deficit (surplus)	Required appropriation
TOTAL: TRANSPORT OPERATIONS	756.3	3 893.7	4 650.0	2 677.1	(1 972.9)	1 920.8
AIR OPERATIONS						
Rental of aircraft	143.0	592.6	735.6	219.1	(516.5)	76.1
Aviation fuel and lubricants		177.9	177.9		(177.9)	-
Positioning/depositioning costs		100.0	100.0		(100.0)	-
Air-crew subsistence		7.2	7.2		(7.2)	-
Ground handling charges		20.0	20.0		(20.0)	-
TOTAL: AIR OPERATIONS	143.0	897.7	1 040.7	219.1	(821.6)	76.1
COMMUNICATIONS						
Commercial communications	200.3	403.7	604.0	358.5	(245.5)	158.2
Spare parts and supplies		56.0	56.0	12.4	(43.6)	12.4
Communications equipment	80.0	773.5	853.5	1 185.7	332.2	1 105.7
Workshop and test equipment		44.8	44.8		(44.8)	-
TOTAL: COMMUNICATIONS	280.3	1 278.0	1 558.3	1 556.6	(1.7)	1 276.3
OTHER EQUIPMENT						
Acquisition, office furniture		137.0	137.0	93.1	(43.9)	93.1
Acquisition, office equipment		124.4	124.4	58.2	(66.2)	58.2
Acquisition, data processing equipment		535.8	535.8	233.1	(302.7)	233.1
Reproduction equipment		70.0	70.0	16.1	(53.9)	16.1
Other equipment	50.0	59.5	109.5	7.0	(102.5)	(43.0)
Miscellaneous equipment			-		0.0	-
TOTAL: OTHER EQUIPMENT	50.0	926.7	976.7	407.5	(569.2)	357.5
Miscellaneous services	52.0	115.0	167.0	81.2	(85.8)	29.2
Supplies and materials	65.0	157.9	222.9	271.3	48.4	206.3
TOTAL	117.0	272.9	389.9	352.5	(37.4)	235.5
FREIGHT AND RELATED COSTS	20.0	220.0	240.0	212.8	(27.2)	192.8
GRAND TOTAL	8 994.1	30 040.9	39 035.0	28 260.1	(10 774.9)	19 266.0

ANNEX II

Supplementary information on the estimated expenditures

A. Personnel costs

1. International United Nations personnel

Total authorized:	$19 327 500
Estimated expenditures:	$14 148 400

1. The expenditures relate to salaries ($5,359,700), common staff costs ($4,062,600), monthly mission allowance ($4,293,800), consultants ($289,100) and travel ($143,200):

(a) Under salaries and common staff costs provisions were made for 427 international staff. The actual number of international staff deployed to the Mission was 405, of whom 38 Professional staff were specifically recruited as mission appointees. In addition, the success of the election process resulted in the early withdrawal of personnel;

(b) Under common staff costs, discounted airfares negotiated with airline companies resulted in lower cost for travel to and from the Mission area;

(c) Expenditures for mission subsistence allowance covered a total of 39,022 days, compared with the original estimate of 50,433 days;

(d) Under other official travel of staff, compared with the original estimate of $225,500, the revised requirements are now estimated at $143,200 owing to significantly less travel undertaken than initially envisaged;

(e) Under consultancy services, provisions were initially made for five consultants to render technical electoral services or advise on security issues relating to ballot papers, ink and tendered ballots. In the course of the election process, it became necessary to engage more consultants to render such services. Expert advice on security arrangements within the country, which was not originally provided for, was also required. Owing to these additional arrangements, expenditures are now estimated at $289,100.

2. Local staff

Total authorized:	$1 144 600
Estimated expenditures:	$802 600

2. It was anticipated that an additional 700 locally recruited staff would be required between February and May 1994 as drivers and interpreters at an estimated cost of $952,800 in addition to the 60 local staff for which an appropriation of $191,800 had been already approved in General Assembly resolution 48/230 A. The current estimate is now $802,600, reflecting a reduction of $342,000. Almost all of the additional staff required for the election process were recruited in April. Moreover, it was found more cost

effective to recruit drivers and security services from local employment agencies. The sub-contracting of local staff recruitment during the election period resulted in lower expenditures.

3. United Nations Volunteers

Total authorized:	$2 464 000
Estimated expenditures:	$2 460 700

3. The expenditures relate to the provisions made for 205 United Nations Volunteers.

4. Observers

Total authorized:	$6 570 000
Estimated expenditures:	$5 051 900

4. Provisions were made for 1,288 observers for a 10-day period during the election period, including subsistence and travel costs, for a total of $6,570,000. The revised requirements of $5,051,900 reflect the cost of 1,065 electoral observers.

B. Operational costs

1. Public information programme

Total authorized:	$345 000
Estimated expenditures:	$143 000

5. It was anticipated that increased public information activities, including production and dissemination of information on UNOMSA's role through various media, would be required during the election period. An additional provision of $300,000 was requested, therefore, over the $45,000 appropriated for public information activities. Since the activities of the Mission were known and covered throughout the host country, the extensive public information programme, originally envisaged to be undertaken, was not required. A decrease of $202,000 in the requirements has been achieved.

2. Premises/accommodation

Total authorized:	$328 300
Estimated expenditures:	$227 900

6. In the estimates submitted to the General Assembly in 1993, a provision of $169,800 was made for the rental of office space at Johannesburg and Durban and for the temporary office space for the observers during the election period, including maintenance and utilities. Owing to the expansion of the Mission, additional requirements estimated at $158,500 were requested to cover the cost of additional rented office space (including utilities and minor alterations required for those premises) at Johannesburg and Durban, as well as the lease of nine additional regional offices and 10 district offices. The total estimated

requirements under rental of premises for the period from 1 January to 31 June 1994 were thus estimated at $328,300. Expenditures are estimated at $227,900, $100,400 less than the original estimates owing to the following factors:

(a) The Mission closed earlier than originally anticipated (namely in May instead of June and the regional offices were closed immediately after the elections in April);

(b) It has been originally assumed that a number of alterations and renovations would be required for premises leased by the Mission. Owing to the good condition of the buildings secured for the Mission's headquarters areas, minimal alterations and renovations were needed;

(c) The cost of utilities were included in the rental agreements for a number of rented premises.

3. Transport operations

Total authorized:	$4 650 000
Estimated expenditures:	$2 677 100

7. Appropriations of $336,300 and $420,000 respectively were granted by the General Assembly for the rental of 50 vehicles, inclusive of fuel and maintenance, and for the purchase of 6 armoured vehicles. Owing to the expansion of UNOMSA, provisions for an additional 1,014 rented vehicles were requested at an estimated cost of $3,674,300. The related maintenance and fuel costs were estimated at $25,000 and $221,000 respectively. The total cost for transport operations was thus estimated at $4,650,000.

8. As security conditions in the country were better than anticipated, in particular during the election period, the purchase of armoured vehicles ($420,000) became unnecessary. In addition, favourable flat rates for rental contracts obtained from car rental companies resulted in reduced requirements for the rented vehicles ($1,532,500); and the excellent conditions of vehicles rented resulted in lower fuel consumption ($48,700). On the other hand, there was a slight increase of $28,300 for the repair of accident-damaged vehicles, for which the provision of $25,000 in respect of 1,064 vehicles were understated.

9. The revised requirements of $2,677,100 are broken down as follows: rental of vehicles ($2,451,100); spare parts, repairs and maintenance ($53,300); and fuel costs ($172,700).

4. Air operations

Total authorized:	$1 040 700
Estimated expenditures:	$219 100

10. An appropriation of $143,000 was granted by the General Assembly for the rental of a light fixed-wing aircraft or helicopters for travel within South Africa, in particular to enhance monitoring activities and shuttle diplomacy

efforts between Cape Town and Johannesburg. For the expanded mandate of UNOMSA, related air operations costs were estimated at $897,700 consisting of the rental of helicopters, as required, for each of the nine regional offices ($58,600); charter of a B-200 jet type aircraft on a full-time basis ($273,000); and the charter of L-100 type and F-27 type aircraft for the international electoral observers during the deployment and withdrawal phase of the Mission ($261,000). Provisions for fuel and other costs have been estimated at $305,100.

11. Estimated expenditures amount to $219,100, or $821,600 less than originally estimated. As it proved possible to use commercial airlines within the country, there was no need to charter the aircraft except in cases where scheduled airline traffic did not conform to scheduled travel. Similarly, travel by the international electoral observers in the country was either by bus or commercial airlines instead of by helicopter, as originally envisaged. Owing to the minimum use of chartered aircraft, provisions for aviation fuel and lubricants, positioning and depositioning costs, air-crew subsistence and ground handling charges ($305,100) were not required.

5. Communications

Total authorized:	$1 558 300
Estimated expenditures:	$1 556 600

12. The estimated requirements under communications amounted to $1,558,300, of which $280,300 are already appropriated. The revised requirements amount to $1,556,600, reflecting a small decrease of $1,700. Reductions were achieved in the cost of commercial communications ($245,500) owing to the early withdrawal of personnel from the mission area and the dismantling of communications facilities immediately after the election; and in the cost of spare parts and supplies ($43,600) and workshop and test equipment ($44,800) owing to the excellent condition of communications equipment transferred from other missions. These decreases were partially offset by an increase of $332,300 for the acquisition of additional communications equipment such as portable INMARSAT terminals and VHF radios for placement in those areas of potential violence and in the provincial headquarters.

6. Furniture and other equipment

Total authorized:	$976 700
Estimated expenditures:	$407 500

13. The estimate of $976,700 relate to the acquisition of additional office furniture ($137,000), office equipment ($124,400), data-processing equipment ($535,800), cartographic equipment for production of maps for observers ($70,000) and other miscellaneous equipment ($109,500) such as copiers, spare parts for electronic data-processing equipment and other miscellaneous equipment.

14. The total estimated expenditures amount to $407,500, a decrease of $569,200 against the original estimates. These decreases relate to the acquisition of office furniture ($43,900), office equipment ($66,200), data-processing

equipment ($302,700), reproduction equipment ($53,900) and other miscellaneous equipment ($102,500).

(a) Most of the data-processing equipment was made available from the United Nations Supply Depot at Pisa, resulting in a reduction of $302,700 under acquisition;

(b) The total provision for office and miscellaneous furniture and equipment amounted to $440,900. As it was purchased on a buy-back basis, the cost of equipment actually purchased amounted to $174,400, or a decrease of $266,500.

7. Supplies and materials and other miscellaneous services

Total authorized:	$389 900
Estimated expenditures:	$352 500

15. Compared with the original estimate of $389,900, there is a small decrease of $37,400 under these items. This reflects, on the one hand, reduced requirements under miscellaneous services ($85,800) owing to preferential customer service accorded by commercial banks in South Africa to UNOMSA and lower costs for medical treatment and other required services owing to the early closure of the Mission, offset by additional requirements of $48,400 resulting from higher local prices of identifications jackets, first-aid kits and other supplies required by the electoral observers.

8. Freight and related cost

Total authorized:	$240 000
Estimated expenditures:	$212 800

16. Owing to discounted rates obtained from commercial carriers in transporting UNOMSA's assets to other Missions, the provision of $240,000 was not totally utilized. A decrease of $27,200 is thus reflected under this heading.

Grand total authorized:	$39 035 000
Grand total expenditures:	$28 260 100